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Tom had not thought that being a man mostly meant you could do the dirtiest jobs all by yourself, but apparently it did.

Life is what you make it.

Tom Pook is growing up during the 1920s in a hidden in the Roadless back waters of the Kaipara Harbour. At 14 years old he can neither read nor write, but he’s tough and capable and, when his parents head north for a week, they leave him in charge of his 7 younger brothers and sisters.

By Elizabeth Hegarty.

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